

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/429,920

Examiner

Tom Y. Lu

Applicant(s)

WATANABE ET AL.

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/7/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4,5,7,8,13 and 14.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

JINGGEN LU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Response to Amendment

1. Request for Continued Examination filed on 08/07/2006 has been entered.
2. Upon entry of the Request for Continued Examination, the amendment filed on 6/13/2006 is now entered and considered.
3. Claims 1-3, 6, 9-12 and 15 have been cancelled.
4. Claims 4, 8 and 14 have been amended.
5. Claims 4-5, 7-8, 13 and 14 are pending.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

6. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
7. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Christopher Mitchell, Reg. 54,946 on 8/23/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

- a. Claim 4, line 10: please replace "generating or editing a robot program" with "generating and editing a robot program".
- b. Claim 8, line 6: please replace 'the memory' with "a memory"
- c. Claim 8, line 8: please replace "generating or editing a robot program" with "generating, editing a robot program"
- d. Claim 14, line 10: please replace 'generating or editing a robot program' with "generating and editing a robot program"

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Upon entry of the amendment, the objection of claims 4 and 14 has been withdrawn.
9. Claims 4-5, 7-8, 13 and 14 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- a. Independent claims 4 and 14 both define features of a teaching pendant, which comprise a unit for generating and editing a robot program, a unit for operating the robot and a display unit, and can display on the display unit the converted image, and comprises a unit used for manipulation for image processing; and said display unit displays an indication for generating or editing of the robot program and an indication for manipulation of image processing, together with an image simultaneously or allows a user to select either a switching mode or a superposition mode. These features in combination with other features in claim 4 are not taught or suggested by the art of record.
 - b. Claims 5, 7 and 13 are dependent upon claim 4.
 - c. Independent claim 8 defines features of displaying the converted image data on a teaching pendant used for generating, editing a robot program and used for operating said robot, wherein said displaying displays the image data and indication for manipulation for image processing simultaneously, or allows a user to enter a switching mode or a superposition mode. These features in combination with other features in claim 8 are not taught or suggested by the art of record.
10. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tom Y. Lu whose telephone number is (571) 272-7393. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jingge Wu can be reached on (571)-272-7429. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TYL

JINGGEWU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

